

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

L-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00

/054 W

-----011250Z 004826 /43

R 011100Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3245

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 0360

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, CD

SUBJ: US ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

1. DURING JANUARY 29 CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT MALLOUM, I INFORMED HIM THAT, AS HE HAD REQUESTED, I HAD MADE A COMPLETE REVIEW OF ALL US ASSISTANCE PROJECTS IN CHAD AND THAT I HAD GIVEN RESULTS OF THIS REVIEW TO FOREIGN MINISTER KAMOUGUE. PRESIDENT ACKNOWLEDGED HE HAD SEEN THE FIGURES INVOLVED AND WOULD BE GIVING US OFFICIAL VIEWS OF HIS GOVERNMENT AT A LATER DATE. HE SAID THAT FOR THE MOMENT HE WOULD ONLY COMMENT THAT WHILE HE APPRECIATED THE LEVEL OF OUR ASSISTANCE, HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE NATURE OF OUR PROGRAMS WAS APPROPRIATE OR THAT THEY WERE BEING PROPERLY COORDINATED WITH GOC.

2. HE SAID THAT NEITHER HE, THE GOVERNMENT, NOR THE CHADIAN PEOPLE COULD UNDERSTAND WHAT A GREAT POWER LIKE THE US WAS DOING INVOLVED IN SO MANY SMALL, DISPERSED PROJECTS. I REPLIED THAT WHILE I COULD UNDERSTAND HIS CRITICISM, WE NEEDED HIS GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS ON WHAT PRIORITY AREAS IT FELT WE SHOULD BE CONCENTRATING UPON. AFTER REFLECTION, HE SAID THAT HE WOULD CHARACTERIZE HIS VIEWS AS FOLLOWS: CHAD'S PRIORITY AREAS SHOULD BE EDUCATION AND HEALTH, BUT THAT NEITHER WERE OF ANY VALUE TO PEOPLE WHO DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT AND NO ONE WOULD HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT UNTIL CHAD HAD A BETTER INTERNAL

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TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM FOR DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD. HE ADDED THAT FROM A GOVERNMENT STANDPOINT, ALL OF THE FOREGOING WAS IRRELEVANT IF THE SECURITY OF THE PEOPLE COULD NOT BE ASSURED. I POINTED OUT THAT THIS TOOK US FULL CIRCLE AND THAT, SETTING ASIDE SECURITY ASSISTANCE (SEE SEPTTEL), WE WOULD STILL BE INVOLVED IN A WIDE SPECTRUM OF ACTIVITIES AND OUR RESOURCES WOULD ACCORDINGLY BE DISPERSED. HE AGREED AND SAID WE

WOULD TALK FURTHER WHEN HE WAS PREPARED TO DISCUSS HIS PRIORITIES IN GREATER DETAIL, BUT FOR THE MOMENT HE WOULD APPRECIATE OUR KEEPING FOCUSED ON EDUCATION (ACTUAL ACTIVITIES, NOT STUDIES), PUBLIC HEALTH, AND SODELAC (SOCIETY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LAKE CHAD).

3. ON MATTER OF COORDINATION OF OUR PROGRAMS WITH GOC, PRESIDENT POINTED OUT WE HAVE NOT ADJUSTED OUR OPERATIONS TO CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE WHICH SPLIT OFF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FROM DEVELOPMENT PLANNING. HE SAID GOC CONCEPT WAS THAT ALL PROGRAM PLANNING WITH INTERNATIONAL DONORS WOULD, IN ITS INITIAL STEPS, BE DONE WITH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION AND NOT WITH THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY, PLANS, AND TRANSPORTATION OR WITH INDIVIDUAL CHADIAN TECHNICIANS. HIS CRITICISM IS JUSTIFIED. PATTERNS WERE SET IN THE PAST FOR DEALING WITH THE DIRECTOR OF PLANS AND INDIVIDUAL TECHNICIANS AND THESE PATTERNS HAVE NOT BEEN CHANGED. I ASSURED HIM THAT WE WOULD ATTEMPT TO COMPLY WITH HIS WISHES, BUT WARNED HIM THAT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION IS UNDERSTAFFED AND LACKS TECHNICAL EXPERTISE AND THAT, THEREFORE, ITS EARLY INVOLVEMENT WILL OFTEN LEAD TO LONG DELAYS AND MISUNDERSTANDING. HE ADMITTED THIS BUT SAID HE STILL WANTED US TO START OUR PLANNING THERE, AND IF WE HAD TOO MANY PROBLEMS I WAS FREE TO BRING THEM TO HIS PERSONAL ATTENTION.

4. I HOPE TO USE UPCOMING VISIT OF DIRECTOR AFR/SFWA TO SEEK FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF GOC'S PRIORITY DESIRES AND A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF COORDINATION OF OUR EFFORTS. BRADFORD

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## Message Attributes

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